

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 were pending in the application at the time the Office Action was mailed. Claims 1-14 are canceled by this response. New claims 15-28 are presented for examination. Accordingly, claims 15-28 are pending. Support for each new claim may be found in the specification according to the following table:

Claim	Example of Support for Claim in Specification
15.	pp. 4-5
16.	p. 10
17.	p. 15
18.	p. 15
19.	pp. 4-5
20.	p. 18
21.	p. 18, Fig. 7
22.	p. 18, Fig. 7
23.	Fig. 5
24.	Fig. 5
25.	Fig. 5
26.	p. 18

27.	pp. 4-5
28.	pp. 4-5

The applicants' representatives wish to thank Examiner Rekstad for the interview on March 15, 2007. During the interview, the parties discussed embodiments of the invention, claims 1-14, U.S. Patent No. 5,898,457 to Nagao et al ("Nagao") and U.S. Patent No. 6,683,993 to Mead ("Mead"), and proposed new claim 15. Further details regarding the substance of the interview may be found below. If Examiner Rekstad believes that any additional information regarding the interview is necessary, please let the undersigned attorney know.

This amendment after final should be entered. The applicants recognize that the Examiner has discretion in entering an amendment after final rejection, and believes that the present amendment is sufficiently focused to be appropriate for entry.

New independent claims 15, 23, and 28 each recite certain systems or methods that provide varying levels of user information to a remote user. The applied references lack any such disclosure. For example, Nagao does not disclose or suggest, among other limitations:

"that a remote user is provided with an indication of the user's desire to communicate before the remote user establishes a two-way communication link with the user" (claim 15),

"[providing] transmit information based on the use-selected level of privacy, wherein the transmit information comprises one of the group of real-time video information, cartooned video information, reduced resolution video information, audio information, haptic information, and abstract representation information" (claim 23), or

"[the transmit bandwidth] range further including an intermediate range comprising processing the captured video data associated with the user to produce a dynamic avatar animation" (claim 28).

The other applied reference, Mead, fails to make up for the deficiency. Furthermore, the applied references fail to disclose "a setting of transmitting a dynamic avatar animation derived from data from the audio and video capture component, and a setting of transmitting a dynamic pure abstract animation derived from data from the audio and video capture component."

Accordingly, new independent claims 15, 23 and 28 are patentable over the cited art. Because the dependent claims import the limitations from the claims on which they depend, they also are patentable over the cited art.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 345288009US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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